



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re Application of: **Ye Wang et al.** : Attorney Docket No.: **944-001.047**

Serial No.: **09/854,1435** : Art Unit: **2654**

Filed: **May 11, 2001** : Examiner: **A. Armstrong**

For: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR INTER-CHANNEL SIGNAL REDUNDANCY  
REMOVAL IN PERCEPTUAL AUDIO CODING**

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Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**MAY 28 2003**  
Technology Center 2600

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION (Paper No.8)**

Sir:

In response to the Non-Final Office Action, mailed February 26, 2003, please amend the patent application as follows:

**In the Claims**

Please amend claims 9 and 11 as follows:

B' 9. (Amended) A method of coding audio signals in a sound system having a plurality of sound channels for providing  $M$  sets of audio signals from input signals, wherein  $M$  is a positive integer greater than 2, and wherein a plurality of intra-channel signal redundancy removal devices are used to reduce the audio signals for providing first signals indicative of the reduced audio signals, said method comprising the steps of:

converting the first signals to audio data of integers for providing second signals indicative of the audio data; and

reducing inter-channel signal redundancy in the second signals for providing third signals indicative of the reduced second signals, wherein the second signals are divided into a plurality of scale factor bands and the third signals are divided into a plurality of corresponding scale factor bands, said method further comprising the step of comparing coding efficiency in the second signals to coding efficiency in the third signals in corresponding scale factor bands, for bypassing the reducing step if the coding efficiency in the third signals is smaller than the coding efficiency in the second signals.